

## Caught—Not Taught

I was in a small church on a Sunday evening and one of the youth said to me, “Do you know why they ask the youth to take up the offering on Sunday nights?”

“What do you mean?” I replied.

She answered, “It’s because none of the deacons are here.”

As I looked around I realized there was a great amount of truth in what she said. Only two out of ten or more deacons were present that night.

It’s amazing how students can pick up on just about everything we say or do. They know when we’re in worship service and when we’re not and if we’re absent, they wonder why. They watch from a distance and soak in all that happens with us. They listen as we talk with other adults and many of them are watching to see if what we have is “real.”

Consider the best teachers you ever had: What do you remember about them? Probably not a single lesson they taught, but you remember their passion, how they treated you, your relationship with them, how you felt when you approached them with a question—did they make you feel stupid or did they treat your questions with importance? Did they stop what they were doing to talk with you? Life’s best lessons are not taught—They are caught.

What are your students catching from you? What do you want them to catch from you?

*You are a living testimony to those around you. Make sure yours is a life worth catching.*